

GERMAN POSITIONS SUCH THEY MUST ATTACK SOON OR GIVE UP THEIR ADVANTAGE

Allies Have Stemmed Advance and Regained Some Important Positions

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—Official Washington is waiting to hear that the German offensive has been resumed and that the mighty struggle which has been deadlocked for weeks has broken forth again. Interest is intensified here inasmuch as along the western line are now many thousands of Americans, whose advent into the great battle came too late for them to participate in any general way before the German onslaughts had been temporarily stayed. When the great battle blazes out again, many American regiments will be along the red line of slaughter.

DELAY COSTS ADVANTAGE

Among the army heads the feeling is that only serious internal troubles will cause Germany to delay much longer and thus lose the advantage of the first offensive. The Germans cannot long delay, in any event and must either assume a grand offensive or acknowledge defeat and retire. It is impossible for the Germans to maintain their present line because of the awkward bulges in it of the two salients they have driven, salients which offer the Allies advantages should their counter offensive be launched and which, for purposes of defense, are equally disadvantageous to the Germans. Defeat along their present line might well bring disaster to the German forces.

ATTACK OR RETREAT

Unless the Germans stop attack, they must retire to straighten their line. Such a retirement would carry them at least back to the old line of the Somme, from which General French drove them last summer, or back to the Hindenburg line, from which they launched their offensive just two months ago.

Yesterday the great Battle of the West entered upon its third month, with none of the main objectives gained for the Germans and with the Entente forces intact and working in even closer cooperation.

SITUATION IS REVIEWED

A review of the situation issued from the grand headquarters of the French armies yesterday, on the close of the second month of the German offensive, was optimistic. The Allies, it points out, have not only stemmed the German advance and held it, throwing back von Hindenburg's legions in terrific slaughter, but have regained many of the most important points along the present front positions from which the Germans, when they paused to reform their shattered organizations, had planned to launch their renewed offensive. All the Flanders hills, with the exception of Mont Kemmel, are firmly held by the Allies and the Germans continue to be cramped in the lowlands of the Lye Valley, exposed to the smashing of the British, French and Portuguese artillery, ranged in a great sweep around them.

POSITIONS ARE RETAKEN

On the Amiens front, in the Somme Valley, the Allies have recaptured and hold the Villers-Bretonneux plateau, the Richmond Hills, south of Hangard, and all the heights dominating the ground over which the Germans must now advance at Leplemont, Grivesnes and Mailly-Reineval, between Montdidier and Amiens. The possession of these by the Allies makes the launching of another direct assault upon Amiens certain to result in another German holocaust, such as was witnessed when the Germans were blasted away before these positions three weeks ago.

BOMBARDMENTS GROW HEAVIER

The vastly increased intensity in the German bombardments of some sections of the Allied front and the appearance of much larger numbers of German aircraft over the lines indicate that the expected resumption of the general assault is at hand. The German guns are directing a hurricane fire against the British at Albert, against the Franco-British forces on the south side of the Arras salient, along both banks of the Lye, and against the Franco-Americans on the Ayrre, in the Amiens sector.

REDISTRIBUTION OF TROOPS

Reports to French headquarters also announce that the Germans are now carrying out a redistribution of their forces along the whole front. The movement of troops in the rear of the lines is especially heavy. They have organized a special railway service and the excellent communications are enabling them to move great masses of troops in forty-eight hours preceding a new attack.

In the meanwhile the Allies are continuing to strengthen their positions, with American forces arriving over seas more and more rapidly and being put rapidly into actual service or at least into training in actual warfare in various sectors, more especially back of the British more forward positions.

GERMAN AIR RAIDERS FALL SHORT OF PARIS

PARIS, May 23—(Associated Press)—German air raiders last night made an ineffective attack upon Paris and were unable to penetrate the air defenses and to reach Paris, not getting beyond the suburbs. In the outskirts of the city there were several persons killed and injured and some property lost but in the city no destruction was wrought.

One of the raiding machines was shot down and fell to the earth a mass of flames and charred framework.

FRENCH CROP PROSPECT BEST IN TWENTY YEARS

PARIS, May 23—(Associated Press)—Food Minister Boret gives an optimistic report for the 1918 grain and other crops. He says that the harvest prospects are the best since 1898.

SEAPLANES COLLIDE AND TWO MEET DEATH

LAKE CHARLES, Louisiana, May 23—(Associated Press)—Lieutenant Latham Polk of New York and Spencer Williams of Buffalo, both members of the naval reserve aviation corps, were killed today when their seaplanes collided.

STAMP SALES GROW AND APRIL MAKES RECORD

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Official)—April sales of War Savings Stamps were the largest of any month since they were issued, amounting to \$58,735,198. Total sales to May 1 were \$208,085,737.

CAUSE OF DEPENDENCY

Dependency is often caused by indigestion and constipation, and quickly disappears when Chamberlain's Tablets are taken. These tablets strengthen the digestion and move the bowels. For sale by all dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for Hawaii—Adv.

Participation of Italy Will Be Widely Observed

Message of Wilson Will Be Read At Home and in Italy—London Lord Mayor Tenders Luncheon To Diplomatic Corps

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—President Wilson's message on the anniversary of Italy's throwing its weight to the cause of the Allies, three years ago, in which he praised the Italians for their loyalty and devotion to the common cause and for the sacrifices they have made and sympathies with them in the sufferings which they have been called upon to bear, will be read at a great mass meeting of Italians which will be held here today and at a number of other mass meetings in those cities where Italians have congregated in large numbers. It has been called to Italy and will be read at all celebrations there.

Yesterday the lord mayor of London gave a luncheon in commemoration of this anniversary, it is reported in despatches from the British capital. The guests were the ambassadors of the Allied countries, the American diplomatic corps, the Italian diplomatic corps, a number of prominent Italians and American leaders, the most prominent of the British cabinet.

St. Robert Cecil, in giving the toast, "Italy," said that the defense of the Piave line was most vital and useful in the unifying of Italy and the solidifying of the sentiment of the people.

SAN FRANCISCO TO HAVE ITS HOLIDAY

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23—(Official)—Combining two events in the observance of the day, Mayor Botsford has proclaimed a holiday on Friday, May 24. This is Empire Day, the British holiday, celebrated for more than sixty years as the birthday of Queen Victoria, and the anniversary of the entry of Italy in the war. While the third anniversary of that event does not actually fall on Friday, it comes so near that it is combined for observance in the general holiday. He makes observations of the sacrifices which Italy has made and is making, the losses it has suffered and the loyalty which that country has shown.

This celebration will be generally observed throughout the country in accordance with the proclamation of President Wilson.

MORE SINN FEINERS. TO BE APPREHENDED

Widow of One of the Former Revolt Ring Leaders Taken

LONDON, May 23—(Associated Press)—More arrests of Sinn Feiners are expected. It is known that considerable numbers of the organization have thus far escaped the police and if these are known to be closely involved with the plotters if not participants in the plot. These are to be taken into custody, it is said, as fast as they can be found.

Several arrests were made in Dublin yesterday and last night. Among these was Mrs. Thomas J. Clark, a widow whose husband suffered the death penalty for the part which he played in the revolt of 1916.

RACE TROUBLES IN VALDOSTA GROWING

VALDOSTA, Georgia, May 23—(Associated Press)—Another death was added to the growing list that has resulted from the killing of Hamilton Smith, a farmer who resided near here and the wounding of his wife. Yesterday there was fighting between mobs and the police and the latter killed Sydney Johnson, a negro who is alleged to have been involved in the murder of the farmer. Three white men were also injured in the fighting.

Last week four negroes, one of them a woman, were lynched for alleged participation in the affair at the farm house.

THREE LIVES ARE LOST WHEN TANKER IS SUNK

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—Three lives were lost when the American oil tank steamer William Rockefeller was torpedoed by a Hun submarine in the war zone and sunk.

Eleven officers and sixty-one members of the crew have been landed safely and gave the details of the loss of the ship.

NAVY AVIATOR MEETS DEATH IN BRAVE FIGHT

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—The navy department has received word that Ensign Stephen Fott of the U. S. naval reserve has been killed in a fight in which he was battling with seven German seaplanes over the North Sea.

LOSSES FROM STORM

DES MOINES, Iowa, May 23—(Associated Press)—Reports that have come in from those sections of this state which suffered from the storms of yesterday give accounts of serious damage and a considerable loss of life. In Central Iowa more than a score of persons are reported to have been killed, the list of injured numbers more than a hundred and the property loss is conservatively estimated at a million dollars.

ATTENTION TURNS TO MOUNTAINS IN ITALIAN THEATER

Expectation Is That Fighting This Spring and Summer Will Center in High Region

FIVE GREAT HIGHWAYS DEFENDED AGAINST ENEMY

Italians Break Up All Attacks Which Are Launched On West of Brenta Sector

ROME, May 23—(Associated Press)—West of the Brenta River yesterday Italian armies broke up a number of attacks which were attempted by the Austrians. In no instance was the enemy able to gain and in nearly all cases the repulse was attended by considerable losses to them.

Attention is now being centered largely on the mountain front, for all the indications are that this is to be the main scene of coming operations instead of the flat river country to the east. These operations perhaps not far off, it is well to take a survey of this mountain sector for its main points are likely to be heard of very often in the coming months. Already along these mountain roads there is the stir of great forces of men, guns and horses moving into position, and one almost feels that a great battle is already on.

Natural Fortification

The Tridentine Alps which stretch across northern Italy form a natural fortification between the two opposing lines, and it is in the lower section of these ranges that the military operations are now unfolding. While it is a front of several hundred miles from the Adriatic up to the Swiss frontier, yet part of this stretch is impenetrable mountain peaks covered with eternal snow, and there are practically only five lines of approach where breaks in the mountain permit military operations to be carried on.

These five lines of approach or communication through the Tridentine Alps are the valley regions known as the Valtellina, meaning we saw from its winding character, which leads down to Lake Como and toward Milan; second, the Val Camonica, leading southward toward Brescia; third, the Val Giudicaria, which comes down just east of the Adamiello region with its line of peaks and skirts along the west shore of Lake Garda; fourth, Val Lagarina, which follows the course of the Adige river on the east of Lake Garda, and comes down from Trent toward Verona; and fifth, the Val Sugana which follows the course of the Brenta river and winds around the Asiago region down past Bassano.

These five main highways through the mountains become more important from a military standpoint, as they come eastward toward the Asiago and Brenta region. All the chief pressure has been in the eastern region in the past, and the indications at present are that it will be in this region.

The great fighting ground, then, would be along the two valleys on the east, Val Lagarina and Val Sugana, and chief attention should be centered on them and their neighboring heights of Asiago, the Grappa and Mount Tomba. Both of them come down from Trent, the Austrian storm center which sends forward troops and supplies through both these valleys to the mountain fronts beyond. From Trent the enemy has railroads down both these valleys.

The Lagarina valley comes straight south to Verona and the open plain. It was down here that the enemy made his first rush two years ago, pushing from Rovereto west toward Mount Pambio. He was driven back then, and all the indications are that he will be held again if he comes that way.

The most important approach is by way of the Val Sugana, or Brenta river. From its headwaters near Trent the Brenta makes a wide circuit before it comes down to the open plain of Asiago, and it is within this circuit that the Asiago plateau and the hardest fighting ground lies. The Austrian railway from Trent comes down the valley to Primolano, about twenty miles above Bassano, thus keeping up a steady flow of men and supplies. That is why the Italian airplanes have centered attention on this valley, which is often mentioned in the communiques as having its railway stations bombed.

The bomb-swept and deserted town of Asiago is the center of this battle region enclosed by the Val Sugana and the Brenta river. The enemy lines run just below the town. Near by are Mount Val Bella, Sasso Rosso and Melegnano, all the scene of desperate fighting when the enemy tried to come down the west bank of the Brenta. The river itself comes through a rocky defile, so that the approach is over these in towering mountains which reach down to the river valley.

This Asiago region is cut by two other local valleys, which are a most important part of the mountain operations though they are not main highways through the Alps. These are the Valarsa and the Astico valleys, which wind irregularly down toward Vicenza. Much is likely to be heard of this section in the coming operations.

East of the Brenta River

East of the Brenta river is another part of the great city-like of Italy's natural mountain defense. Near it, rising from the Piave river, comes Mount Tomba, where the French troops made such a brilliant drive last December. The enemy has been comparatively quiet in this region, all the indications being that he is centering attention further west in the Asiago region and down the Brenta valley.

This summarizes the mountain fighting ground on the Italian front, where there is gathering activity and where it is believed the big fighting is going to occur.

Independence Day Will Mark Record In Shipping

Every Yard In Country Told To Speed Up and Help Establish Launching Figures That Will Startle Whole World

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—Every shipyard in the country has received a telegram containing instructions to speed up its efforts and to make July 4 a world's record for the launching of ships. Every yard that can do so is asked to launch at least one on that day.

Schwab and Colby of the shipping board are to be in San Francisco at that time. It is planned to have nine launches in San Francisco harbor on Independence Day and it is possible the number will be still further increased.

BUILDING WOODEN SHIPS WILL GO ON

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23—(Official)—A United States shipping board representative here after a tour says that he will recommend the unlimited continuance of wooden shipbuilding on the Pacific Coast, because timber and skilled men are to be found on the Pacific Coast in abundance and the industry is well organized.

He noted that an Oregon plant is rapidly completing big wooden ships in forty-five days.

It is predicted that steel ships will be welded instead of riveted as welding is two and half times faster than the present riveting.

Tom Horn who established the individual rivet driving world's record, is seven feet tall and weighs 240 pounds.

RUSSIANS STARVE AND ALLIES LEAVE

Petrograd Gives Half Pound of Potatoes in Lieu of Bread

MOSCOW, May 23—(Associated Press)—Recently there has been a marked exodus of citizens of the Allied countries and the United States from Russia, moved to leave by the acute food shortage. They go because of the discomfort they must bear if they remain and because they desire not to take food from the mouths of the starving who cannot get away.

In Petrograd there is no longer a bread ration. Grain and flour supplies have been completely exhausted. In lieu of the bread ration the citizens are allowed a half pound of potatoes daily.

Sugar, when it can be obtained is selling at fifty rubles a pound.

The armistice between the Russians, the Ukrainians and the Germans on the Kurak front has been extended to cover the Voronitz and Briansk sectors as well.

Trotsky has declared martial law in the Kuban and Don districts.

INSURANCE PREMIUMS ON SAILORS LOWERED

Reduction of Danger Recognized in Fixing New Rates

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Official)—Reduction in the rate of premium of insurance on the lives of officers and crews of merchantmen traversing the war zone, the reduction being from the present rate of \$2500 to a new rate of \$1500 a thousand dollars of insurance, is acting in accordance with its policy as shown by the reduction of the premium of insurance on vessels and cargoes which was recently announced. That reduction was from three percent to two percent. In making both reductions it is taken into consideration that the risk of submarine has been materially reduced by the precautionary measures taken by the Allied and United States fleets for the protection of the vessels and the men.

The action is also in line with the figures which were shown in the monthly report of maritime losses by the British admiralty. Figures of such losses are now issued only monthly in lieu of weekly as formerly. This report shows a total of losses to British ships of the war zone of a little more than 300,000 tons, the British losses having been 226,709 and the Allied neutral losses being 84,593, in April.

SOME OF PHILIPPINE GUARD MAY SEE FRANCE

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23—(Official)—Despatches from Washington declare that it is practicable to send some of the Philippine national guard to France. Division officers in the capital are reported as urging Secretary Baker to send the whole 25,000 whose services have been offered.

Between the Brenta and Piave rivers it is strongly held by the Italians and some of the great city-like of Italy's natural mountain defense. Near it, rising from the Piave river, comes Mount Tomba, where the French troops made such a brilliant drive last December. The enemy has been comparatively quiet in this region, all the indications being that he is centering attention further west in the Asiago region and down the Brenta valley.

COLDS CAUSE HEADACHES

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE removes the cause. Used the world over to cure a cold in one day. The signature of E. W. GROVE is on each box. Manufactured by the FARIS MEDICINE CO., St. Louis, U. S. A.

RELIEF TO BELGIUM WILL BE RESUMED

Ships Have Been Needed For Other Purposes—Starvation Will Be Averted

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—Relief for Belgium, which had to be discontinued while the ships which had previously been carrying food and supplies were used for other purposes, presumably the movement of troops to France and supplies for those that are there, is to be immediately resumed. President Wilson yesterday approved the restoration of ships for that purpose.

Ninety thousand tons of food are to go to Belgium within the next ninety days, it is announced. Food Administrator Hoover, than whom there is no one in the United States more familiar with Belgian conditions and needs, has said that this will be sufficient to prevent absolute starvation but the ration which will result from such shipments will still be very meager.

GERRYMANDER OF BOHEMIA IS TOLD

Redistricting Takes Strength From Czechs and Gives It To German Minority

VIENNA, May 23—(Associated Press)—Strong advantage is to be given to the German party in Bohemia while the Germans are in a distinct minority this is being obtained by a redistricting which has been announced.

In order to reduce the Czech members in the reichsrath who it is alleged incited and abetted the recent riots, Bohemia has been divided into twelve electoral districts along new lines. This will have the effect of giving an added strength to the German party in legislative affairs and will consequently reduce the Czech representation.

Bohemia is now under martial law. There have been a large number of arrests made and order is being restored.

HUGHES ASKS THAT SENATE HOLD OFF

Wants No Other Investigations Until His Is Ended

WASHINGTON, May 23—(Associated Press)—Former Chief Justice Hughes has written to the senate committee on military affairs and to the department of justice in connection with the investigation of the aircraft production scandal. He suggests that there should be no other investigations while his is under way and adds that his investigation should be made as thorough and as comprehensive as possible.

Members of the senate committee on military affairs have sought to force further investigations into the army affairs of the administration in direct disregard of the expressed wishes of the President.

ARMY RECRUITING IS GOING AHEAD RAPIDLY

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23—(Official)—Army recruiting officers in this city have recently been fairly swamped with applications. In one day, recently, seventy applicants were examined and passed upon.

Twenty men from the Chinese quarter have successfully passed their physical examinations and will join the army on Saturday.

Four veteran Russian aviators, who are here from Vladivostok, have sought to join the American flying service but they are barred because of the provisions which cover the enlistment of foreigners. They still hope to obtain a special dispensation in the shape of permission from Washington.

SAN FRANCISCO CHINESE HELP RED CROSS FUNDS

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23—(Official)—In recognition of the great work which the American Red Cross has recently done in China in time of need the Chinese boys' band, accompanied by fifty Chinese volunteers, have announced the districts of the city that are occupied by the Chinese. They have told of the work of the Red Cross in China during times of famine and in relieving of distress after great floods and other disasters.

FRIGHTFULNESS TOLL

LONDON, May 23—(Associated Press)—The casualties in the German air raid on London and south eastern England Sunday night were announced today. They were forty-four killed and one hundred and seventy-nine injured.

ALLIES' FORCE GERMANS BACK; RENDER LINES MUCH STRONGER

Quickening Artillery Fire and Greater Air Activity Indicate That New Phase of Offensive Will Soon Come

AMERICANS BECOMING MUCH GREATER FACTOR

Artillery Drenches Positions, Cantonnments and Woods With Gas While Aviators Outwit the Teutons Air Men

NEW YORK, May 23—(Associated Press)—At several

points the Allies yesterday forced back the Germans and thereby rendered their lines much easier of defense in case of the coming of the expected new phase of the enemy offensive.

Increasing air activity is one of the notable features of yesterday, as it has been steadily growing for several days past, and is considered clearly indicative of the early coming of an offensive movement. This was further indicated on the Amiens sector where there was a great increase in the volume of the enemy artillery fire which quickened into a drum fire.

Stronger participation by the American forces was told in the despatches of yesterday and last night. The American artillery is giving the enemy no rest either by night or by day. In the struggle for the mastery of the air the American aviators are also making a most creditable showing and are constantly outwitting and outfighting the Hun airmen.

To the northwest of Toul the American batteries suddenly launched an unexpected and terrific attack upon the enemy positions. In this they used tactics which were first employed by the Teutons and the American artillery rained showers of gas bombs upon their positions and cantonnements, evidently inflicting a heavy punishment.

Picking as targets woods where it was known that large numbers of the enemy were sleeping, the Americans fairly drenched them with poisonous gas.

East of Luneville there were two encounters between American and German patrols in which the Germans were defeated and lost two prisoners in addition to leaving a number of dead behind them as they fled.

General Haig last night reported that the Germans had unsuccessfully attempted to raid Mesnil and were repulsed with considerable loss. On the other hand the British raided German trenches near Hebutryne where they inflicted considerable losses. To the southeast of Arras the British entered the German trenches at two o'clock and took a considerable number of prisoners.

BERLIN REPORT

Nothing of German activities was told in the Berlin official communiques last night. It spoke of heavy artillery fire directed against the German positions in the Kammell sector, on both sides of Lys and between Albert and Arras and said that the Germans replied shot for shot.

Showing the intensity of the air battles, London reported that the British had brought down twelve German machines, wrecked another, with gun fire and put two others out of control.

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